



# FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 326, Lewisberry, PA 17339

(717) 938-2300 • FAX (717) 932-2262 • [www.fleoa.org](http://www.fleoa.org)

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February 12, 2006

Honorable Michael Chertoff  
Secretary of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC

Dear Secretary Chertoff:

It is my understanding that the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has forwarded a request to you to authorize a two-year extension for all "rehired annuitants" within TSA and the Federal Air Marshal Service (FAMS). FLEOA fully supports this request.

As you are aware, both TSA and the FAMS utilized many experienced Federal law enforcement personnel (rehired annuitants) to initially set up and operate these two new and important Federal agencies.

Many "rehired annuitants" occupy critical management positions within both TSA and the FAMS. These positions include Federal Security Directors and Assistant Federal Security Directors for Law Enforcement within TSA, as well as most mid-level, upper level and executive-level management positions within the FAMS.

Since both TSA and the FAMS have only existed for four years, the loss of these key management personnel (rehired annuitants) within these agencies and the lack of experienced personnel to fill this void, will have a devastating effect on public safety.

OPM encourages agencies to utilize "rehired annuitants" and Congress recently passed legislation to enable the Defense Department to take advantage of this unique personnel practice, since most other departments were already utilizing this valuable resource. This personnel practice actually saves the agencies money, since they don't have to pay any fringe benefits to rehired annuitants (saves about 40% or \$40,000) per employee and bridges the knowledge and skills gap between newer employees and highly experienced employees.

I urge you to act now and authorize a two-year extension for all "rehired annuitants" within TSA and the FAMS.

Sincerely,

Art Gordon, National President

